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INSTRUCTIONS

CONCERNING

REGISTRATION IN VERMONT.

INSTRUCTIONS

RELATIVE TO THE

REGISTRY AND RETURN

OF

Births, Marriages and Deaths,

IN

VERMONT.

BENJAMIN W. DEAN,


SECRETARY OF STATE.

MIDDLEBURY:

PRINTED AT THE REGISTER BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.
1859.

N. B. A sufficient number of blanks were furnished each Town Clerk for his own use, and for the use of District Clerks for the year 1858, and duplicate copies to be preserved for the returns of 1859. The blanks will be issued in this manner once in two years from the office of the Secretary of State.

Should any Clerk fail to receive blanks, or should the number fall short, or be destroyed, more will be forwarded on application.

 It is expected that the Clerks will preserve this pamphlet, and transmit it to their successors in office.

INSTRUCTIONS.

The returns received during the past two years have shown that while many of the clerks employed in registration have been conversant with their duties, nevertheless there have been others who were wholly ignorant of the important trusts confided to them, or grossly negligent in their fulfillment. That all may have complete understanding of the requirements of the Statute upon this subject, and that there may be the greatest possible degree of accuracy and uniformity in the annual returns, it has been deemed advisable to publish the following list of instructions :

1. It is desirable that all records and official returns should be legibly written with good black ink, the figures distinctly made and the names given in full; and that no contractions should be anywhere used where any doubt can possibly exist as to their meaning.

2. The returns required to be forwarded to the Secretary of State, should be sent *promptly*, in good condition, with as few new folds as possible, and without being cut or trimmed, since each sheet is to form a leaf in a bound volume, to be preserved in the office of Secretary of State, after the abstracts required by law shall have been made. The law requires that the town clerks transmit certified *copies* of their record, and blanks are furnished for that purpose. The district clerk's returns, and loose sheets of common writing paper, cannot well be bound with the proper blanks, and hence should not be sent in.

3. The returns should strictly include the facts that appertain to the year for which they are made, and to the towns where the recorded events actually occurred, the Statute being strictly conforming to by the proper registering officers.

4. The Statute provides that births, marriages and deaths shall be numbered and *recorded* in the order in which they are received by the Clerks. This is an important provision and should be strictly adhered to; nevertheless, in making the required *returns* to the

Secretary of State, it would facilitate the operations for tabulation if the facts were arranged in the order of the calender months. without any special reference, however, to the numerical order of the days of the month.

5. The color, nativity and parentage should be carefully reported; and also whether the subject for registration is deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic, or whether a pauper or a convict.

6. In reference to age, there should be placed in the appropriate column in distinctly written figures the exact age of each individual at the last birth day, the additional months and days being appended when practicable. When the exact age cannot be ascertained, an approximation to the truth should be attempted, with an interrogation mark (?) appended.

7. The profession, occupation and trade, should be given with great care and exactness; and the value of the returns would be much enhanced, if against the name of each clergyman, in case of decease, there were annexed the initials of the denomination to which he belonged, selected from those usually employed for designating the different religious sects.

8. For the place of nativity, the State and Territory of all native born persons, and the country of all foreign birth, should be given with as few contractions as possible.

9. The fact of parentage is of the greatest importance in furnishing proof of family affinities, in cases relating to the transmission of property.. This fact has been very much neglected in the past returns, in fact by some of the clerks it has been almost entirely overlooked. Only a very little extra exertion is needed to make registration in this respect as perfect as could be expected.

10. The annual abstracts show exclusively that there has been great remissness in collecting and reporting the facts. No reason is obvious why our State should differ so widely from others similarly situated. Probably not over *one-half* of the births, *three-quarters* of the marriages, and *two-thirds* of the deaths, have been reported. Until this blemish upon Vermont registration is obviated, very little reliance can be placed upon deductions drawn from the facts exhibited by the tables in the annual reports.

11. The Registration Law requires that the returns shall be transmitted to the Secretary, annually in the *month of June*. Unless these are received promptly the labor and expense of preparing the tables, are very much increased. The Clerks are not entitled to receive any pay unless they "comply with the provisions of this act *in all respects*." (See act, sec. 3.)

12. It will add much to the value of the returns, to mention any considerable change which may have taken place in the population of any town, since the last census.

13. The space after the word [Page] within brackets should be left blank, to be filled by the proper figures after the sheets are bound.

BIRTHS.

14. In no case should the stillborn be recorded with the births, but invariably with the deaths. But if a child live the shortest period of time, its birth should unquestionably be accurately registered.

15. In the fourth column of the register book, under "Sex and Condition;" should be written not only the sex of the child, but the fact when the child is a twin, is born in a plurality case, or is illegitimate, and whether in regard to color, it is black, mulatto, Indian, &c. The meaning of this word "Condition" seems to have been, in this place, most frequently misunderstood. It does not refer to the health of the child, nor to the condition in life of its parents, either pecuniary or otherwise.

16. In the next column, the "Place of Birth" the number of the school district should be written, or the name of the street, if in a place where the streets are named, the name of the town being implied, unless otherwise distinctly stated.

17. In the sixth column, the surname or family name of the father and also of the mother before marriage, if possible, (and this last between parentheses,) should be written, together with the given name of each.

18. Confusion arises sometimes because children born in one

town are recorded in another to which their parents may have removed after the birth of the child. In other cases children born while the mother was on a visit, have been recorded in the usual place of residence of the parents, and not unfrequently in both places. The birth should invariably be recorded where it actually occurred; and if for any proper reason, the record be made elsewhere, care should be taken that the same be returned to the Secretary's office particularly from the town in which the event took place.

19. It is desirable that attention should be given to the births of illegitimate children, as much information of a useful and interesting character can be derived from tables on this subject, when they are prepared from returns carefully collected and discriminately made. Therefore, it would be well for the recording officers to be particular in designating the nativity, ages, &c., of the parents, and any other facts which can be obtained. In a reformatory view, much could be gained by the information thus obtained, and the Vermont reports would be enabled to keep pace with the improvements which are observable in those of Massachusetts, Great Britain and other countries.

MARRIAGES.

20. The returns of marriages were more full, but less complete than those of births and deaths. The nativities, ages, parentage and condition, (i. e. whether the marriage was the first, or a subsequent one, of one, or both the parties,) often were not given. These are all facts of importance in investigations in regard to the social and physical condition of the people and hence should be accurately reported.

21. The space between two red lines is designed for one marriage; this gives room to record the age, parents' names, residence, condition, &c., of each person. Hence the names of both parties should not be written on the same line, nor in such a manner that one shall be above and one below a red line.

22. There has evidently been very great remissness of the officiating clergymen and others in making proper and timely returns. This carelessness, which appears to the delinquent parties to be of so little consequence, is certainly productive of much irregularity in the official records; marriages being, in consequence of it, very incompletely recorded, or altogether omitted. This neglect is exceedingly culpable, when it is considered that oftentimes the transmission of property may be very seriously affected by this disregard to the rights of others and to the laws of the State. Persons who solemnize marriages, and especially those who receive fees for their services, should see that the proper returns are made, as an act of justice to the married parties, even if they disregard laws and have no fear of penalties.

DEATHS.

23. The particulars relating to deaths are so plain as to require but little explanation. Under the head "Place of Death" should be written the school district, or street, as directed for "Place of Birth." See 13.

24. Under "Sex and Condition" should be written, in addition to the distinction of sex, the fact whether the deceased was single or married, widower or widow. The word "condition" never has reference to the pecuniary circumstances of the person. This is the proper place also of noting the fact if the deceased was deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic, and whether black, mulatto, or Indian.

25. Sufficient particularity has not been given to the subject of stillborn children. These should always be recorded with the deaths, and not with the births. Especial attention is required to be given for ascertaining the sex of this class, and it seems that a very little more labor would insure more accurate returns in this particular, which is of much more importance in vital and mortuary Statistics than is generally attributed to it by those who have little or no interest in investigations of this sort. It seems to be regarded of little or no importance what the sex of the stillborn may be, yet

these facts always have to be taken into account in all extended and accurate calculations relating to the proportion that the two sexes bear to each other, and the relative powers of vitality in the sexes on entering independent life.

26. The great source of error in regard to the registry of deaths is in the primary causes of death. Great care should be taken by those who collect facts for registration, that the diseases be sufficiently discriminated. The clerks who prepare the abstract cannot go beyond the returns placed in their hands, but are required strictly to follow the official returns received at the Secretary's office. Consequently, if care is not taken to give them correct returns, correct tables and abstracts cannot be expected as the results of their labors. The abstracts show the facts as reported : and however incongruous some of them may be, owing to the carelessness or ignorance of those who make the primary returns, they are intended to be faithfully prepared, and true abstracts of the material furnished.

27. Every officer should be sure that his record is as correct as can be, and should not be satisfied with a return that he does not sufficiently understand, but always insist upon having an intelligible record, as far as possible.

I. *Give the causes of death the right name ; and such as have the same meaning at all times, and in all places.*

For instance the term "Consumption," should be applied only to that disease of the lungs which is so well known, and not to any other disease which may be accompanied with a general wasting and decay. This rule is more frequently violated in giving the causes of death among young children and the aged, hence more particular enquiries should be made as to the disease of such persons.

II. *Such names should be used as will give a clear definition of the cause of death.*

Such terms as "Inflammation," "congestion," "various," "complicated diseases," "disease of the head," are improper. No one, however ingenious, can discover the causes of death from such terms. The particular organ or part of the body affected by the inflammation or congestion should be specified, the names of one or more of the complicated diseases should be given ; the kind of dis-

case in the head. So "fits," "convulsion," "decline," "sudden death," &c., give no information unless the kind of convulsion be stated, as apoplexy, epilepsy, &c.; and the cause of the decline or sudden death be given.

III. *A single word, or the least number of words possible, which would give this clear definition, should be preferred. Popular names may be used where they are sufficiently exact.*

IV. *When more than one disease or cause have concurred in producing death, they may be written after each other, in the order of their appearance or importance.*

V. *State, as nearly as can be known, by numbers, the duration of the disease, or diseases if more than one have concurred in producing the death, in years, months, or days.*

The words "sudden," "acute," "chronic," &c., being indefinite, ought not to be used. The duration of the disease implies the time intervening between the first appearance of well marked characteristic symptoms and death. Eruptive and febrile diseases should be dated from the chill and first symptoms, not from the later appearance of the eruption, &c. Thus, "whooping cough, eight weeks," "pneumonia, twelve days," would imply that the earliest symptoms of the whooping cough appeared eight weeks before death, while those of inflammation of the lung were first noticed twelve days before death.

VI. *In fatal cases of small pox, measles, scarletina, typhus and the like diseases, state whether it was the second, third, &c. attack, if the patient has sustained more than one attack. In case of small pox state whether the person had been vaccinated.*

VII. *In ague, epilepsy and other diseases which occur in fits or paroxysms, date the illness from the first fit, and add the duration of the last fit.*

Thus, "Epilepsy five years, last fit four hours."

VIII. *In external causes of death, the nature of the injury and the circumstances of the death should be stated: and whether by accident or design. If by design, the instigating cause should be mentioned, if known.*

For example, "Fracture of skull, thrown from wagon," "Hanging, suicide, loss of property," &c.

III. *When poison has been the cause of death, the time which elapses between its administration and the death should be registered as far as possible.*

Examples. "Arsenic, suicide, 30 hours, impending disgrace."
 "Laudanum, accidental, eight hours," &c.

28. Some Clerks annexed to their returns remarks in the form of explanatory notes. This practice is of much value, and is highly appreciated by those who are engaged in investigations in vital and mortuary statistics. The remarks are more highly esteemed than is generally supposed; and could it become the general practice of the officers who are required to transmit returns, to accompany them with comments upon the most important facts concerning health, disease and death, as manifested in their several towns, much valuable and desirable knowledge would be elicited. Among the numerous matters which should be noticed, are the peculiar and accidental causes of disease and death, the unusual occurrence of any disease, whether epidemic or not, and more especially of such as are endemic. When the reasons for the appearance of any of these can be satisfactorily obtained, they should be mentioned at large, as they may be of great service to the community in a sanitary point of view, and would confer an incalculable benefit upon persons engaged in studies of a medical nature, and render important assistance in arresting the ravages of baneful disease.

29. It would add materially to the accuracy and value of the returns, if the town clerk would ask some competent physician to look over his record, correct any errors he may discover, call his attention to any case which may demand further inquiry in regard to the cause of death, and suggest such explanatory notes as he may think desirable. A very small amount of well-spent labor would add much to the perfection and value of the records.

30. Lest difficulty may still be found in applying the foregoing rules, from want of familiarity with the *names* of diseases, the following alphabetical list of the causes of death is given. This list contains those names which it is desirable should be used, and comprehends all that are ordinarily necessary in filling out the records. When several are given which are synonymous the one in *italics* is considered preferable. The letters appended to each disease show the class to which it belongs in the succeeding classification, the figures indicate the order.

- Abortion, iv. 2.
 Abscess of ———, ii. 1. iii. The location of the abscess
 should be given, and the disease which lead to its formation.
 Accident, v. 1. Specify the kind.
 Ague, *Intermittent Fever*, i. 1.
 Albumenuria, *Nephria*, Bright's Disease, iii. 5.
 Alcoholism, Delirium tremens, Intemperance, i. 3.
 Anæmia, ii. 1.
 Aneurism of ———, iii. 2. Its location should be given.
 Angina Pectoris, iii. 2.
 Anus, Imperforate, iv. 1.
 Aphthæ, *Thrush*, i. 4.
 Apoplexy, iii. 1.
 Arteritis, Inflammation of the Arteries, iii. 2.
 Ascites, iii. 4.
 Asthma, iii. 3.
 Atelectasis, iv. 1.
 Atheroma of the Arteries, iii. 3.
 Atrophy, Debility, Premature old age, iv. 4.
 Bed Sore, ii. 1. State whether from ulceration or mortifica-
 tion, also what disease preceded.
 Bladder. Disease of, iii. 5. (Give the kind of disease, if pos-
 sible).
 Bleeding. *Hæmorrhage* from ———, ii. 1. State from what
 part of the body.
 Boil, *Phlegmon*, i. 1. Give its location.
 Bone, Disease of, iii. 7. Tell the kind of disease.
 Bowels, Disease of, iii. 4. Tell what disease.
 Brain, Disease of, iii. 1. Record the nature of the disease.
 Brain Fever, *Cephalitis*, Inflammation of the brain, iii. 1.
 Bright's Disease, *Nephria*, Albumenuria, iii. 5.
 Bronchitis, iii. 3.
 Bronchocele, i. 3.
 Burns and Scalds, v. 1. Name the place.
 Calculus, Gravel, Stone, iii. 5.
 Cancer, ii. 1. Give its location, and kind, if possible.
 Caries, iii. 7.
 Canker, ii. 1.

- Canker rash, *Scarletina*, Scarlet fever, i. 1.
 Carbuncle, i. 1.
 Casualty, v. 1. Record the kind of casualty.
 Cephalitis, iii. 1. May be used to designate any inflammation within the head, even if the differential diagnosis is uncertain.
 Chicken-pox, i. 1.
 Childbirth, iv. 2.
 Chlorosis, iv. 2.
 Cholera Morbus, i. 1.
 Cholera Infantum, i. 1.
 Chorea, iii. 1.
 Cirrhosis, iii. 4.
Climacteria, Turn of life, iv. 2. Should not be used when any more specific disease can be ascertained.
 Colic, *Ileus*, iii. 4.
 Cold, Frost, v. 1.
 Concussion of ———, v. 1. State of what part.
 Congestion of ———, iii. 1. State of what part.
Consumption, Phthisis, ii. 2.
 Constipation, *Ileus*, iii. 4.
 Contusion of ———, v. 1. 2. State where and whether accidental, or by design.
 Convulsions, iii. 1. When these occur in the course of other diseases, or are excited by teething, the fact should be mentioned.
 Cretinism, i. 3.
 Croup, i. 1.
 Cut, v. 1. 3. 4. Accident, Homicide, or Suicide? also the place of the wound?
 Cyanosis, iv. 1.
 Cystitis, iii. 5.
 Debility, iv. 4. This term should not be used if any specific disease can be ascertained which caused the debility.
 Delirium tremens, Alcoholism, Intemperance, i. 3.
 Dementia, iii. 1.
 Diabetes, iii. 5.
 Diarrhoea, i. 1.
Diphtheria, Putrid, or Malignant sore throat, i. 1.
 Diuresis, iii. 5.
 Dropsy, ii. 1. If of any particular part or organ, or following scarletina or other disease such facts should be stated.
 Drowned, v. 1. 3. 4. State whether accidental, homicide, or suicide.
 Dysentery, i. 1.

- Dyspepsia, iii. 4.
 Empyema, iii. 3.
Enteritis, Inflammation of Bowels, iii. 4.
 Epilepsy, iii. 1.
 Epistaxis, iii. 3.
 Ergotism, i. 3.
 Erysipelas, i. 1.
 Erythema, i. 1.
 Exostosis, iii. 7.
 Explosion of powder, gas, &c., v. 1.
 Fainting, *Syncope*, iii. 2.
 Famine Fever, i. 3.
 Fever, i. 1. Name the kind. if possible.
 Fistula, iii. 4.
 Fracture of ———, v. 1. 3. 4. Record the part fractured,
 also whether accidental, homicide or suicide.
 Frost, v. 1.
 Gallstones, iii. 4.
 Gangrene, Mortification, ii. 1. State of what part.
Gastritis, Inflammation of the Stomach, iii. 4.
 Glanders, i. 2.
 Gonorrhœa, i. 2.
 Gout, ii. 1.
 Gravel, Calculus, Stone, iii. 5.
 Gunshot, v. 1. 3. 4. Record whether accidental, homicide
 or suicide.
Hamatemesis, Vomiting blood, iii. 4.
Hamaturia, Bloody urine, iii. 5.
Hæmoptysis, Spitting blood. Hæmorrhage from the lungs. iii. 3.
 Hæmorrhage, ii. 1. iii. 3. 4. 5. From what part?
Hæmorrhoids, Piles, iii. 4.
 Hanged, v. 1. 4. 5. State whether by accident, by suicide,
 or by the executioner.
 Heart Disease, iii. 2. Tell what kind of disease, if possible.
Hepatitis, Inflammation of the liver, iii. 4.
 Hernia, iii. 4. Record whether congenital, femoral, inguinal,
 or umbilical.
 Hip Disease, ii. 2. iii. 7. State whether serofulous or simple
 inflammation.
 Hydrocele, iii. 6.
Hydrocephalus, Dropsy of the brain, ii. 2.
 Hydrophobia, i. 2.
Hydrothorax, Dropsy in the chest, iii. 3.
 Hysteria, iii. 1.
 Ileus, iii. 4.

- Infantile, iv. 1. This term is recommended to designate the unknown cause of deaths occurring shortly after birth, and should not be used when any specific disease can be ascertained.
- Inflammation of ———, iii. This word should never be used unless the part affected is specified.
- Influenza, i. 1.
- Insanity, *Mania*, iii. 1.
- Intermittent fever*, Ague and fever, i. 1.
- Intussusception, iii. 4.
- Ischuria, iii. 5.
- Jaundice, iii. 4. The cause should be given, if possible.
- Kidney Disease, iii. 5. Give the kind of disease.
- Laryngitis, iii. 3.
- Laryngismus, iii. 1.
- Leprosy, i. 2.
- Lightning, v. 1.
- Liver Disease, iii. 4. To be used only when the *nature* of the disease is not known.
- Lock-jaw, *Tetanus*, iii. 1.
- Lung Disease, iii. 3. To be used only when the *nature* of the disease is not known.
- Lung fever, *Pneumonia*, Inflammation of the lungs, iii. 3.
- Lupus, ii. 1.
- Mania, iii. 1.
- Malformation, iv. 1. The kind should be specified.
- Malignant Pustule, i. 2.
- Marasmus, iv. 4.
- Measles, i. 1. State if terminating in pneumonia, or consumption.
- Melanosis, ii. 1.
- Metria*, Puerperal fever, Childbed fever, i. 1.
- Mortification, ii. 1. The cause, if known, and the part affected should be mentioned.
- Miliaria, i. 1.
- Mumps, Parotia, i. 1.
- Murdered, v. 3. In what manner?
- Necrosis, Dissecting wound, i. 2. (Poison from a dead body.)
- Nephria*, Bright's Disease, Albumenuria, iii. 5.
- Nephritis*, Inflammation of the Kidneys, iii. 5.
- Neuralgia, iii. 1.
- Neuroma, iii. 1.
- Oesophagitis, iii. 4.
- Old Age, iv. 3. Should not be used when any specific disease can be ascertained.

- Ophthalmitis*, Inflammation of the Eye, iii. 1.
Ostitis, Inflammation of bone, iii. 7.
Otitis, Inflammation of the ear, iii. 1.
 Ovarian Disease, iii. 6. Tell whether it was dropsy, tumor, abscess, or inflammation.
 Pancreatic Disease, iii. 4.
Paralysis, Palsy, iii. 1.
 Paramenia, iv. 2. (Includes amenorrhœa, leucorrhœa, and other derangements of the menstrual function.)
 Parotia, Mumps, i. 1.
 Perforation of ———, iii. Name the part.
 Peritonitis, iii. 4. If puerperal it should be registered as Metria.
Pericarditis, Inflammation of the heart, iii. 2.
 Pharyngitis, iii. 4.
Phlebitis, Inflammation of the veins, iii. 2.
 Piles, *Hæmorrhoids*, iii. 4.
Phlegmon, Boil, iii. 8. Give its location.
 Pleurisy, iii. 3.
Pneumonia, Lung fever, Inflammation of the lungs, iii. 3. If this occurs as a sequel of measles, scarletina, whooping cough, or other disease, it should be so registered.
 Pneumothorax, iii. 3.
 Poison, v. 1. 3. 4. The kind of poison should be stated, and the time intervening before death, also whether, accidental, homicide, or suicide.
 Porrigio, i. 4.
 Prostate Gland, Disease of, iii. 5.
 Purpura, i. 3.
 Purulent Ophthalmia, i. 2.
 Putrid sore throat, *Diphtheria*, i. 1.
 Pyemia, i. 1.
 Quinsy, i. 1.
 Remittent Fever, i. 1.
 Rheumatism, i. 1. Name the part affected.
 Rickets, i. 3.
 Scabies, i. 4.
 Scalds and Burns, v. 1. Name the place.
Scarletina, Scarlet fever, Canker rash, i. 1.
 Scrofula, ii. 2. The part affected should be registered.
 Scurvy, i. 3.
 Skin Disease, iii. 8. Give the kind of disease.
 Small Pox, i. 1.
 Spina Bifida, iv. 1.
 Spine Disease, iii. 7. Name the kind of disease.
 Spleen, Disease of, iii. 4.

- Stab, v. 1. 3. 4. State the place of the wound, also whether accidental, homicide, or suicide.
- Starvation, v. 1. 3. 4. State whether accidental, homicide, or suicide.
- Stillborn, iv. 1.
- Stomatitis, iii. 4.
- Stone, Calculus, Gravel, iii. 5.
- Stricture of ———, iii. Name the part.
- Suffocation, v. 1. 3. 4. Accident, homicide, or suicide?
- Suicide, v. 3. State in what way and by what means, also the cause, if known.
- Sunstroke, v. 1.
- Surgical Operation, v. 1. State what operation, and the time intervening before death.
- Syncope*, Fainting, iii. 2.
- Synovitis*, Inflammation of the joints, iii. 7. State what joints.
- Syphilis, i. 2.
- Tabes Mesenterica, ii. 2.
- Teething*, Dentition, iv. 1. State if death occurred by diarrhoea, convulsions, or otherwise.
- Tetanus*, Lock-jaw, iii. 1.
- Thrush*, Aphthæ, Ulcers of the mouth, i. 4.
- Tumor, iii. The kind and location should always be given.
- Turn of life,* *Climacteria*, iv. 2.
- Typhoid Fever, i. 1.
- Typhus Fever, i. 1.
- Ulcers of ———, iii. The part affected, and the character of the ulcer should be given; also the cause, when known.
- Urinary Disease, iii. 5. State the kind, if possible.
- Uterine Disease, iii. 6. The nature of the disease should be given.
- Varicocèle*, Varicose Veins, iii. 6.
- Varioloid, i. 1. State how long since the person had been vaccinated, if possible.
- White Swelling, ii. 2. Record the part affected.
- Whitlow, iii. 8.
- Worms, i. 4. Tell what kind of worms.
- Yellow Fever, i. 1.

CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES.

The following classification of the Causes of Death has been adopted for the Vermont Registration Reports, in order that they may conform as nearly as possible with those of other countries thereby securing to them much greater value for the comparison of facts both at home and abroad. The statistical nosology is that recommended by William Farr, Esq., M. D., of England with the sanction and approval of the most eminent medical men of Europe, and which has been adopted in Massachusetts, and will probably be used by many other States, as well as upon the entire European continent.

CLASSES.

I.—**ZYMOTIC DISEASES**:—*Zymotici*. (*Zume*, leaven.)

Diseases that are either epidemic, endemic, or contagious; induced by some specific body, by the want of proper nourishment, or by the bad quality of food.

II.—**CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES**:—*Cachectici*. (*Kachexia*, bad habit of body.)

Sporadic diseases; affecting several organs in which new morbid products are often deposited; sometimes hereditary.

III.—**LOCAL DISEASES**:—*Monorganici*. (*Monos*, alone, without others; *Organon*, organ.)

Sporadic diseases in which the functions of particular organs or systems are disturbed or obliterated, with or without inflammation; sometimes hereditary.

IV.—**DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES**:—*Metamorphici*. (*Metamorphosis*, change of form.)

Special diseases, the incidental result of the formative, reproductive, and nutritive processes.

V.—**VIOLENT DISEASES OR DEATHS**:—*Thanatici*. (*Thanatoi*, violent deaths.)

Diseases which are the evident and direct results of physical or chemical forces, acting either by the will of the sufferer, of other persons, or accidentally.

ORDERS.

- Class I.—Order 1. Miasmatic diseases:—Miasmatici. (*Miasma*, stain, defilement.)
2. Enthetic diseases:—Enthetici. (*Enthetos*, put in; implanted.)
 3. Dietic diseases:—Dietici. (*Diaita*, way of life; diet.)
 4. Parasitic diseases:—Parasitici. (*Parasitos*, parasite.)
- Class II.—Order 1. Diathetic diseases:—Diathetici. (*Diathesis*, condition; diathesis.)
2. Tubercular diseases;—Phthisici. (*Phthisis*, wasting away)
- Class III.—Order 1. Brain diseases:—Cephalici. (*Kephale*, head.)
2. Heart diseases:—Cardiaci. (*Kardia*, heart,)
 3. Lung diseases:—Pneumonici. (*Pneumon*, lung.)
 4. Bowel diseases:—Enterici. (*Enteron*, intestine.)
 5. Kidney diseases:—Nephritici. (*Nephros*, kidney.)
 6. Genetic diseases:—Aidoici. (*Aidoia*, pudenda.)
 7. Bone and Muscle diseases:—Myostici. (*Mus*, muscle; *Osteon*, bone.)
 8. Skin diseases:—Chrotici. (*Chros*, skin.)
- Class IV.—Order 1. Developmental diseases of children:—Paidiaci. (*Paidia*, youth,)
2. Developmental diseases of women:—Gyniaci. (*Gune*, woman.)
 3. Developmental diseases of old people:—Geratici. (*Geras*, old age.)
 4. Diseases of nutrition:—Atrophici. (*Atrophia*, atrophy.)
- Class V.—Order 1. Accident:—Tychici. (*Tuche*, chance.)
2. Battle:—Polemici. (*Polemos*, battle; fight.)
 3. Homicide:—Androphonici. (*Aner*, man; *Phoneuo*, I kill.)
 4. Suicide:—Autophonici. (*Autos*, self; *Phoneuo*, I kill.)
 5. Execution:—Demiotici. (*Demiotes*, executioner.)

LAW OF THIS STATE RELATING TO THE REGISTRY AND
RETURNS OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

AN ACT

*Relating to the Registry and Returns of Births, Marriages
Deaths.*

SEC. 1. The clerks of the several towns of this State shall annually, in the month of June, transmit to the Secretary of the State a certified copy of their record of births, marriages and deaths, which have occurred in their respective towns during the year next preceding the first day of January. The births shall be numbered and recorded in the order in which they are received by the clerk. The record of births shall state in separate columns the date of the birth, the name of the child, (if it have any,) the sex of the child, the place of birth, name and surname of one or both the parents, residence of the parents, occupation of the father, and the time when the record was made. The marriages shall be numbered and recorded in the order in which they are received by the clerk. The record of marriages shall state in separate columns the date and place of marriage, the names and surnames of groom and bride, the residence of each at time of marriage, the age of each, occupation of the man, and time when the record was made. The deaths shall be numbered and recorded in the order in which they are received by the clerk. The record of deaths shall state in separate columns the date of the death, the name and surname of the deceased, the sex, condition, (whether married or single,) age in years, months and days, the place of death, the disease or apparent cause of death, the occupation if a male over fifteen years of age, the place of birth, the name of the parents, and time when the record was made.

SEC. 2. The clerks in the several school districts in each town shall annually in the month of February ascertain from actual inquiry or otherwise all the births and deaths which have happened in their respective districts during the year next preceding the first day of January, together with such facts concerning said births and deaths as are required by the first section of this act, and shall make an accurate return thereof to the clerk of the town in which such school district is situated, on or before the first day of March, and said district clerk or other person or persons authorized to perform his duties and make such returns, shall be entitled to receive from the treasury of such town five cents for each and every birth and death so returned. And every person aforesaid, who shall neg-

lect or refuse to make the returns required by this section, shall be liable to a fine of not less than three dollars for each neglect or refusal.

SEC. 3. Every justice of the peace or minister shall make a record of each marriage solemnized before him, together with all the facts relating to marriages, required by the first section of this act, and such justice or minister shall annually, in the month of February, or from time to time, return a copy of the record for the year next preceding the first day of January, to the clerk of the town in which the marriage was solemnized, and every person aforesaid, who shall neglect or refuse to make the returns required by this section, shall be liable to a fine of not less than ten dollars for each neglect or refusal.

SEC. 4. The clerk of each town shall be entitled to receive from the treasury of the town five cents for recording each birth, death and marriage, provided said clerk shall comply with the provisions of this act in all respects.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the clerks of the several towns to make such distribution of the blank forms of returns, as shall be designated by the Secretary of State.

SEC. 6. The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to the clerks of the several towns in this State, blank forms of suitable quality and size, to be used as books of records, according to the provisions of this act, and also blank forms of returns, as herein before specified, and shall accompany the same with such instructions and explanations as may be necessary and useful.

SEC. 7. Every physician who shall attend any deceased person shall leave with the town clerk a certificate containing the name of the disease or cause, (if known,) of the said death, within fifteen days after the interment of the deceased. Any such medical attendant who shall neglect or refuse to give the certificate required by this section, shall, for such offence, pay a fine of three dollars for the use of the town where such offence shall be committed.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to receive the returns made in pursuance of the first section of this act, and with such assistance as may be voluntarily rendered by any authorized committee appointed by the Vermont Medical Society for that purpose, prepare therefrom such tabular results as will render them of practical utility, and make a report thereof annually to the Legislature, and generally shall do whatever may be required to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

SEC. 9. All acts or sections of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

Approved, November 17, 1856.

